

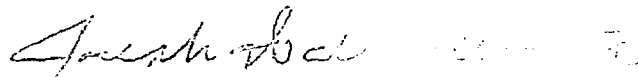
Crow Tribe, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, and all similarly situated Montana tribes to defer to the state to receive the phone line and subsidies. We remind the Commission that we are a domestic sovereign nation and we hold precious our right to regulate our own activities on our reservation. It is the Commission's federal trust responsibility to insure that our sovereignty is upheld.

We specifically request prompt and judicious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless, submitted to the FCC on August 11, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide service on our tribal reservation lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program. We want to know that Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation that Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide land and mobile wireless telecommunications services on the reservation; and that the members of our reservation want the service being offered by Western Wireless. As we have stated, this is a test of tribal sovereignty.

The Western Wireless offer is extremely important to not only the Crow Nation and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, but to all Indian country in general. The opportunity to have competitive, affordable, and reliable phone service on our reservations should not pass us by if we want it.

This is critically important to us and to all other federally recognized domestic sovereign tribes. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Joseph Walks Along, Sr., President

Cc: Chairman
Western Wireless Corporation
Commissioner Tribal
Commissioner Native
Commissioner Federal
Commissioner Federal
Senator Burns
Senator Campbell
Senator Inouye
Senator Baucus
Senator McCain
FCC Common Council
Charles W. Black

Stanley Pino, Chairman
 Frederick L. Vigil, Vice-Chairman
 Amadeo Shije, Secretary/Treasurer

(505) 831-1992



3700 San Pedro NE, Suite E
 Post Office Box 3256
 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110-3256

FAX (505) 883-7682

ALL INDIAN PUEBLO COUNCIL
 OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

*Original sent
 via regular mail
 5/25/00*

May 24, 2000

William E. Kennard, Chairman
 Federal Communications Commission
 445 12th Street, S.W.
 Washington, D.C. 20544

Re: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier
 and for Relief from Waiver to provide Universal Service to the Crow
 Reservation, Petition No. 99-1847, DA 99-1847

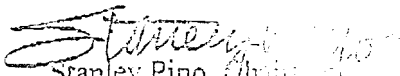
Dear Chairman Kennard:

The All Indian Pueblo Council, representing nineteen (19) sovereign Pueblo Tribal Governments, supports the sovereign request of the Crow Tribe to have the FCC grant Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status to Western Wireless Corporation for the Crow Reservation. Your decision in this matter will impact all of Indian Country in the United States.

When you held the field hearing in Albuquerque, each Tribal leader who testified verified the need for better telephone services on our reservations. We also affirmed our status as domestic sovereign nations. Pueblo Tribal Governments in New Mexico, the same as the Crow tribe, want the FCC to work with us rather than doing anything that may insert state governments in the process.

Please act quickly to fulfill the Commission's federal trust responsibility and grant ETC status to Western Wireless for the Crow reservation.

Sincerely,


 Stanley Pino, Chairman
 All Indian Pueblo Council

Cc: Charilady Noma /Crow Tribe
 Western Wireless
 Charles W. Blackwell

Sen. Domenici
Sen. Campbell
Sen. McCain
Sen. Inouye
Rep. Skeen
Rep. Udall
Rep. Wilson
Commissioner Tristani
Commissioner Ness
Commissioner Powell
Commissioner Furthgott-Roth



Yankton Sioux Tribe

Box 241
Marty, SD 57861
(605) 334-5301 / 334-5311
FAX (605) 334-5387

May 25, 2000

*William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554*

*Re: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and for
Related Waivers to Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation,
Montana, CC Docket No. 98-11, DA 99-1217*

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Yankton Sioux Tribe supports the sovereign request of the Crow Tribe to have the FCC grant the Western Wireless petition for ETC status on the Crow reservation. The Yankton Sioux Tribe, like the Crow Tribe, is a domestic sovereign nation and we expect the FCC to affirm our tribal sovereignty, by granting Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status to Western Wireless for the Crow Tribe because we anticipate a similar petition for us.

For over two years now, the Federal Communications Commission has focused on the extraordinary need of telecommunications services on American Indian reservations. All residents of Indian reservations must have access to high quality basic and advanced telecommunications services. We have great hope that your efforts in this regard will translate into the Yankton reservation having equal access to the telecommunications services necessary to bring about solid economic and social prosperity for our people.

The time is now for immediate FCC action on several matters, including the designation of competitive carriers, like Western Wireless, as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers serving our reservation as well as the Crow.

OFFICERS:

MADONNA ARCHAMBEAU, CHAIRWOMAN
HUGO ZEPHIER, VICE-CHAIRMAN
HARLAN HORNED EAGLE, TREASURER
BEN GONZALES, SECRETARY

Yankton Sioux Tribe Committee (157)

MEMBERS:

WILLARD BRUGUIER
GUY COOKE, SR.
GLENN DRAPEAU
FRANK JANDREAU
CLARENCE MONTGOMERY

neither does the state of Montana, nor does the federal government. The jurisdiction within our tribal reservation boundaries.

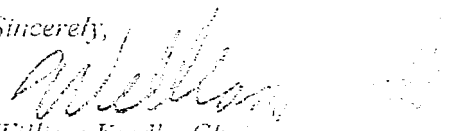
We feel full ETC status should be determined at the federal level with our advice and consent through the Indian Telecommunications Commission. Including the tribes in the telecommunications environment not only benefits the Crow Tribe and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, but all of Indian country. Accordingly, we our full support of approval of ETC status for ETC status on the Crow Tribe requests.

As you well know, services on reservations, such as ours, have been the last frontier in the deployment of telecommunications and information services. This has severely handicapped our people's economic and social development. The time is now for immediate FCC action on several fronts including the designation of competitive carriers, like Western Wireless, as eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and making federal universal service funds available to competitive carriers serving our reservation.

We specifically request prompt and expeditious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless submitted to the FCC on August 4, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide telecommunications services on the Crow reservation. This is in the context of the universal service and the competition. Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation. Western Wireless has the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced telecommunications services on the reservation, and the residents of the Crow reservation do not have the services offered by Western Wireless. The Western Wireless offering is available to not only the Crow Nation but to Indian country in general. We support for competitive, affordable wireless telephone service on reservations and Indian country.

This is critically important to all other tribes similarly situated. Thank you in advance for your attention.

Sincerely,


William Kindle, Chairman
Rosebud Sioux Tribe

cc: Chairlody Nomen
Western Wireline
Charles W. Black
Commissioner Travis
Commissioner Nye
Commissioner P
Commissioner F
FCC Common C
Senator Dorgan
Senator Conrad
Senator Burns
Senator Campbell
Senator Inouye
Senator Baucus
Senator McCain
Charles W. Black



Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Durant, Oklahoma 74703-1210 • (580) 924-8280

Gregory E. Pyle
Chief

Mike Bailey
Assistant Chief

May 26, 2000

Mr. William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and for
Related Waivers to Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation, Montana
CC Docket No. 98-45, DA 99-1347

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Choctaw Nation supports the Crow Tribe in its sovereign request to have the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") grant Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status to Western Wireless Corporation for service on the Crow reservation.

As domestic sovereign nations, the Crow Tribe and Choctaw Nation, like all tribes in America, have the inherent sovereign right to regulate affairs in our jurisdiction. This means that any action by the FCC that would insert the state into the process would be unacceptable.

I also feel comfortable sharing this support of the Crow Tribal sovereignty as the Chairman of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes. These tribes--Choctaw, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Muscogee Creek and Seminole--represent over 400,000 Indian people. Each of the other leaders of these tribes zealously guards against encroachments that may erode our tribal sovereignty.

For over two years now, the FCC has focused on the extraordinary need for telecommunications service on American Indian reservations. All residents of Indian reservations and communities must have access to high-quality basic and advanced telecommunications services.

The time is now for immediate FCC action on several matters, including the designation of competitive carriers, like Western Wireless, as an ETC and making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers serving the Five Civilized Tribes as well as the Crows.

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes support the Crow Tribe's request to have the FCC approve ETC status for Western Wireless services on the Crow reservation. We are concerned that the failure to grant ETC status will force the Crow Tribe, and all Montana tribes,

Mr. William E. Kennard

Page 2

May 26, 2000

would be an unwelcome precedent nationwide. We remind the Commission that we are domestic sovereign nations who hold precious our right to regulate our own activities on our Nations. Failure to do this is an affront to our tribal sovereignty. It is the Commission's federal trust responsibility to insure that our sovereignty is upheld.

Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced telecommunications services on the reservation; and that the residents of the Crow reservation desperately want the service offered by Western Wireless. This is a true definition of tribal sovereignty. The Crow people accept responsibility for their own future.

This is critically important to us and to all other tribes similarly situated. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



Gregory E. Pyle, Chief
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

GEP/gg

cc: Chairlady Nomee
Western Wireless Corporation
Commissioner Tristani
Commissioner Ness
Commissioner Powell
Commissioner Furthgott-Roth
Senator McCain
Senator Burns
Senator Campbell
Senator Inouye
Senator Baccus
Senator Inhofe
FCC Common Carrier Bureau
Charles W. Blackwell

TRENTON INDIAN SERVICE AREA

P.O. Box 210
Trenton, North Dakota 58853
Telephone: (701) 572-8316
Fax: (701) 572-0124

May 24, 2000

Mr. William E. Kennard
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Petition for Designation as an Eligible
Telecommunications Carrier and for Related
Waivers for the Crow Reservation, Montana, CC
Docket No. 96-45, DA 99-1847

Dear Chairman Kennard;

Please consider this letter as support from the Trenton Indian Service Area for the sovereign request of the Crow Tribe to have the Federal Communications Commission grant the petition of Western Wireless for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier status on the Crow reservation.

The Trenton Indian Service Area, a tribal organization, has always supported those Tribes that have exercised their sovereign status in situations such as this. It has always been the feeling of the organization that Federal agencies, such as the Federal Communications Commission, also needs to acknowledge and recognize the unique sovereign status of our Tribes. Granting Eligible Telecommunications Commission status to Western Wireless for the Crow Tribe would be a step in recognizing the government-to-government relationship that currently exists between Tribes and the Federal government.

For over two years the Federal Communications Commission has focused on the extraordinary need of telecommunications service on American Indian reservations. All residents of Indian reservations must have access to high-quality basic and advanced telecommunications services. It is very sad and unfortunate that many residents of our reservations do not even have access to basic telecommunications services.

On behalf of the Trenton Indian Service Area, please consider taking action on the following items:

- Designate competitive carriers, such as Western Wireless, as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the purpose of serving the Crow Reservation.

Mr. William E. Kennard
ETC Designation
Page 2

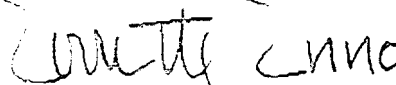
- Make Federal funding available to those carriers that can offer or provide universal services to other reservations as well as the Crow reservation.

The Trenton Indian Service Area would like to request immediate action by the Federal Communications Commission on the petition of Western Wireless. It is the understanding of the organization that the petition was submitted on August 4, 1999 with the idea of providing services to Crow reservation lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program.

Mr. Kennard, since Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation and is ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced telecommunications on the reservation, I feel it is important that a decision be made as soon as possible. The reservations across the country are the last frontier when it comes to the advancement of technology. I sincerely hope the Federal Communications Commission will not pass up the opportunity to provide affordable wireless telephone services to our tribal members on the reservations. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

TRENTON INDIAN SERVICE AREA



Everett Enno
Chairman

Copy: Crow Tribe of Montana
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
File



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike • Suite 100 • Nashville, TN 37214
Telephone: (615) 872-7900 • Fax: (615) 872-7417

May 25, 2000

Mr. William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and for Related Waivers to
Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation, Montana. CC Docket No. 96-45, DA 99-1847*

Dear Chairman Kennard:

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. is concerned with any federal agency action that would diminish tribal sovereignty. For this reason, United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., representing twenty-three federally recognized Tribes with approximately 60,000 members, support the Crow Tribe in its request to have the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") grant Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status to Western Wireless Corporation for the Crow Reservation. Your decision in this matter will impact all of Indian Country in the United States.

To do anything less would create a situation where state governments would be regulating telecommunications services and subsidies on reservations. This is unacceptable.

Please act quickly to fulfill the Commission's federal trust responsibility and grant ETC status to Western Wireless Corporation for the Crow Reservation.

Sincerely,

Keller George, President

cc: Chairlady Nomee/Crow Tribe
Western Wireless Corporation
Senator Burns
Senator Campbell
Senator McCain
Senator Inouye
Commissioner Tristan
Commissioner Ness
Commissioner Powell
Commissioner Furthgott-Roth
FCC Common Carrier Bureau

"Because there is strength in Unity"



CONFEDERATED TRIBES
of the
GOSHUTE RESERVATION

P.O. BOX 6104
IBAPAH, UTAH 84034
PHONE: (435) 234-1138
FAX: (435) 234-1162

May 24, 2000

William Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445, 12th St., S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Petition for Designations as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier status for
Related Waivers to Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation, MT, CC
Docket No. 96-45, DA 99-1847

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation supports the sovereign request of the Crow Nation to have the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) grant Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) status to Western Wireless Corporation for the Crow Nation. Our tribal government, like the Crow Tribe, is a domestic sovereign nation and we expect the FCC to affirm our mutual tribal sovereignty in all of its actions beginning with this one.

For over two (2) years now, the FCC has focused on the extraordinary need for improved telecommunications service on American Indian reservations. All residents of all American Indian reservations must have access to high-quality basic and advanced telecommunications service. We have great hope that your efforts for the Crow people will translate into equal prosperity for our people as well. Our situation is very similar to that of the Crow Tribe, with a defined land area and a defined population where wireless services seems particularly good, adaptable and affordable if we have designated ETC carriers.

We request immediate FCC action on designating Western Wireless ETC status for the Crow Reservation thereby making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers we wish to have serve our reservations. We have the authority and the ability to regulate these activities. The states have no authority or responsibility for service or subsidies on federal Indian trust land.

We remind the Commission that we are a domestic sovereign nation and we hold precious our right to regulate our own activities on our reservation. It is the Commission's federal trust responsibility to insure that our sovereignty is upheld.

We specifically request positive and expeditious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless, submitted to the FCC on August 4, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide service to Crow tribal reservation lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program. We know that Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation; that Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced wireless telecommunications services on the reservation; and the residents of the Crow reservation want the service being offered by Western Wireless. As we view it, this is a true definition of tribal sovereignty.

The Western Wireless offering is extremely important to not only the Crow Nation but also to all domestic sovereign tribes in this country. The opportunity to have competitive, affordable wireless telephone service on our reservations should not pass us by if we request it and we do.

As a matter of protecting tribal sovereignty, this is critically important to us and to all other federally recognized domestic sovereign tribes. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Milton J. Hooper, Chairman
Goshute Business Council

Cc: Chairlady Nomee
FCC Common Carrier Bureau
Senator Baccus
Charles W. Blackwell, Esq.
Western Wireless Corporation
Commissioner Tristani
Commissioner Ness
Commissioner Powell
Commissioner Furthgott-Roth
Senator Bennett
Senator Hatch
Senator Bryan
Senator Reid
Senator Burns

Senator McCain
Senator Inouye
Senator Campbell

OMAHA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

P. O. Box 368
Macy, Nebraska 68039

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Elmer L. Blackbird, Chairman
Armen C. Sheridan, Sr., Vice-Chairman
Lemuel Harlan, Treasurer
Edwin McCaulley, Secretary



TRIAL ADMINISTRATION

(402) 837-5391
FAX (402) 837-5308

MEMBERS

Clifford R. Wolfe, Jr.
Doran L. Morris, Sr.
Forrest "J.C." Aldrich

24 May 2000

William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and
for Related Waivers to Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation,
Montana, CC Docket No. 96-45, DA 99-1347

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Omaha Tribe of Nebraska supports the sovereign request of the Crow Tribe to have the FCC grant the Western Wireless petition for ETC status on the Crow reservation. The Omaha Tribe, like the Crow Tribe, is a domestic sovereign nation and we expect the FCC to affirm our tribal sovereignty, by granting Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status to Western Wireless for the Crow Tribe because we anticipate a similar petition for us.

For over two years now, the Federal Communications Commission has focused on the extraordinary need of telecommunications service on American Indian reservations. All residents of Indian reservations must have access to high-quality basic and advanced telecommunications services. We have great hope that your efforts in this regard will translate into the Omaha reservation having equal access to the telecommunications services necessary to bring about solid economic and social prosperity for our people.

The time is now for immediate FCC action on several matters, including the designation of competition carriers, like Western Wireless, as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers serving our reservation as well as the Crow.

We specifically request positive and expeditious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless, submitted to the FCC on August 4, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide service to Crow tribal reservations lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program. It is our understanding that Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow

Page 2

CC Docket No; 96-45, DA 99-1117

24 May 2000

Nation; Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced telecommunications services on the reservations; and the residents of the Crow reservation desperately want the service offered by Western Wireless. This is a true definition of tribal sovereignty.

The Western Wireless offering is extremely important to not only to the Crow Nation and the Omaha Tribe but to all Indian country in general. The opportunity for competitive, affordable wireless telephone service on reservations should not pass us by.

This is critically important to us and to all other tribes similarly situated.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



Amen C. Sheridan, Vice-Chairman, Tribal Council
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska

ACS:els

xc: Chairlady Nomee
Western Wireless Corporation
Charles W. Blackwell
Commissioner Tristani
Commissioner Ness
Commissioner Powell
Commissioner Furthgo-Roth
File



TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

P.O. BOX 900
BELCOURT, NORTH DAKOTA 58316

(701) 477-0470
FAX: (701) 477-6836

May 24, 2000

William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and for
Related Waivers to Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation, Montana,
CC Docket No. 96-45, DA 99-1847.

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa from North Dakota supports the sovereign request of the Crow Tribe to have the Federal Communication Commission ("FCC") grant Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status to Western Wireless Corporation for the Crow reservation. The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, like the Crow Tribe, is a domestic sovereign nation and we expect the FCC to affirm our mutual tribal sovereignty in all of its actions.

For over two years now, the Federal Communications Commission has focused on the extraordinary need of telecommunications service on American Indian reservations. All residents of Indian reservations must have access to high-quality basic and advanced telecommunications services. We have great hope that your efforts in this regard will translate into reservations having equal access to the telecommunications services necessary to bring about economic and social prosperity.

The time is now for immediate FCC action on several matters, including the designation of competitive carriers, like Western Wireless, as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers serving our reservation as well as the Crow.

Where as referenced in our April 5, 2000 letter (attached) to North Dakota Public Service Commissioner Bruce Hagen, we understand that Western Wireless has been granted ETC status in areas of North Dakota served by US West Communications. This is a step in the right direction, however, we feel full ETC designation must be determined at the federal level, thus enabling a competitive telecommunications environment. Including the tribes in a competitive telecommunication environment not only benefits the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa but all of Indian country. Accordingly, we are in full support of Western Wireless' petition.

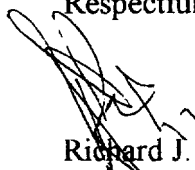
As you well know, however, some reservations, such as ours, have been the last frontier in the deployment of telecommunications and information services. This has

severely handicapped our people's economic and social development. The time is now for immediate FCC action on several matters, including the designation of competitive carriers, like Western Wireless, as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers serving our reservation.

We specifically request positive and expeditious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless, submitted to the FCC on August 4, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide service to Crow tribal reservation lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program. Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation; Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced telecommunications services on the reservation; and the residents of the Crow reservation desperately want the service offered by Western Wireless. The Western Wireless offering is extremely important to not only the Crow Nation but to Indian country in general. The opportunity for competitive, affordable wireless telephone service on reservation should not pass us by.

This is critically important to us and to all other tribes similarly situated. Thank you in advance for your support.

Respectfully,



Richard J. LaFromboise
Tribal Chairman

CC: Chairlady Nomee
Western Wireless Corporation
Charles W. Blackwell
Commission Tristani
Commission Ness
Commission Powell
Commission Furthgott-Roth
Senator Dorgan
Senator Conrad
Senator Burns
Senator Campbell
Senator Inouye
Senator Baccus
Senator McCain
FCC Common Carrier Bureau
Charles W. Blackwell



TURTLE MOUNTAIN BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

P.O. BOX 900
BELCOURT, NORTH DAKOTA 58316

(701) 477-0470
FAX: (701) 477-6836

April 5, 2000

Commissioner Bruce Hagen
North Dakota Public Service Commission
State Capitol Building, 12th Floor
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Dear Commissioner Hagen:

Access to basic and advanced telecommunications services is critical for companies, associations, communities, tribal reservations, and other entities within the state of North Dakota. The telecommunications industry has experienced significant growth over the last few years, bringing new and innovative services to many consumers. We are concerned; however, that North Dakota is being left behind in the telecommunications revolution that is taking place now, especially in rural North Dakota.

The Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribe, as consumers of telecommunications services for our homes and our tribal businesses, do not have access to many of the new and innovative services that are available in other areas of the country. We strongly believe that competition holds the key to the introduction of the new and innovative telecommunications such as wireless telephone in North Dakota. We have seen how competition results in numerous benefits to consumers. This state, on behalf of all its citizens, should encourage telecommunications providers to enter our marketplace and make available to consumers a competitive choice for their telecommunications needs.

We understand that Western Wireless Corporation, doing business in North Dakota as Cellular One and an existing provider of cellular service through out most of the state, is seeking to expand its service offerings to include competitive local telecommunications services. We also understand that Western Wireless is seeking to provide these competitive services in some of the most rural parts of the state including the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Reservation.

It is my understanding the Commission will note on an application by Western Wireless to become an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) in areas presently served by rural telephone companies tomorrow. The Commission has already granted ETC status to Western Wireless in areas served by U S West Communications. This Western Wireless ' initiative to enter rural areas of the state when no other competitive carrier has expressed an interest in doing

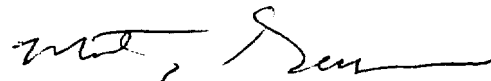
federal trust responsibility to insure that our sovereignty is upheld.

We specifically request positive and expeditious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless, submitted to the FCC on August 4, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide services to Crow tribal reservation lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program. We know that Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation; that Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced wireless telecommunications services on the reservations; and that the residents of the Crow reservation want the service being offered by Western Wireless. As we view it, this is a true definition of tribal sovereignty.

The Western Wireless offering is extremely important to not only the Crow Nation but also to all domestic sovereign tribes in this country. The opportunity to have competitive, affordable wireless telephone service on our reservations should not pass us by if we want it and we do.

As a matter of protecting tribal sovereignty, this is critically important to us and to all other federally recognized domestic sovereign tribes. Thank You.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monty George".

Monty George/for Glenn Wasson
Council Member/ Chairman
Lovelock Paiute Tribe

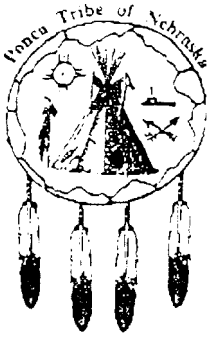
so should be commended. We strongly believe that competitive services should be available to all consumers, not just those who reside in urban areas or in areas served by U S West Communications. After all, we have seen that competition spurs economic development and results in the availability of basic and advanced telecommunications for all consumers. We believe that, through pro-competitive policies, North Dakota can become a model for telecommunications prosperity. We continue to push for strong solid economic development in rural areas of North Dakota including our reservation. Our state on behalf of all the people it serves including the citizens of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians must not put up barriers to keep new technology from competing fairly with existing telephone companies. We should not send a message to the nation's business community which discourages investment in North Dakota based on concerns of existing telephone companies. The first step in this direction Wireless, to enter rural markets as a competitive ETC.

I hope you share our desire to establish a competitive environment for telecommunications services for all North Dakotans which we believe will lead to the availability of new services, lower prices, increased quality of service, and greater economic prosperity.

Respectfully,



Richard J. LaFromboise
Tribal Chairman

**Ponca Tribe of Nebraska**

P.O. Box 288
Niobrara, NE 68760

402 857-3391
FAX: 402 857-3736

May 25, 2000

William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and for
Related Waivers to Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation, Montana, CC
Docket No. 96-45, DA 99-1847.

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska supports the sovereign request of the Crow Tribe to have the FCC grant the Western Wireless petition for ETC status on the Crow Reservation. For over two years the Federal Communications Commission has focused on the extraordinary need of telecommunications service on American Indian reservations. All residents of Indian reservations must have access to high-quality basic and advanced telecommunications services. We hope that your efforts in this regard will translate into reservations having equal access to the telecommunications services necessary to bring about solid economic and social prosperity for Indian people.

The time is now for immediate FCC action on several matters, including the designation of competition carriers, like Western Wireless, as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers serving other reservations as well as the Crow.

We request positive and expeditious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless, submitted to the FCC on August 4, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide service to Crow tribal reservation lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program. It is our understanding that Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation; Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced telecommunications services on the

reservation; and the residents of the Crow reservation desperately want the service offered by Western Wireless. This is a true definition of tribal sovereignty.

The Western Wireless offering is extremely important to not only the Crow Nation, and the Ponca Tribe, but to all Indian country in general. The opportunity for competitive, affordable wireless telephone service on reservations should not pass us by. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred LeRoy".

Fred LeRoy, Chairman
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

WINNEBAGO TRIBE of NEBRASKA

WINNEBAGO TRIBAL COUNCIL P.O. BOX 607 WINNEBAGO, NEBRASKA 68071



May 24, 2000

William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and
For Related Waivers to Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation,
Montana, CC Docket No. 96-42, DA 99-1847

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska supports the sovereign request of the Crow Tribe to have the FCC grant the Western Wireless petition for ETC status on the Crow reservation. The Winnebago Tribe, like the Crow Tribe, is a domestic sovereign nation and we expect the FCC to affirm our tribal sovereignty, by granting Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") status to Western Wireless for the Crow Tribe because we anticipate a similar petition for us.

For over two years now, the Federal Communications Commission has focused on the extraordinary need of telecommunications service on American Indian reservations. All residents of Indian reservations must have access to high-quality based and advanced telecommunications services. We have great hope that your efforts in this regard will translate into the Winnebago reservation having equal access to the telecommunications services necessary to bring about solid economic and social prosperity for our people.

The time is now for immediate FCC action on several matters, including the designation of competitive carriers, like Western Wireless, as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers serving our reservation as well as the Crow.

We specifically request positive and expeditious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless, submitted to the FCC on August 4, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide service to Crow tribal reservation lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program. It is our understanding that Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation; Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced telecommunications services on the reservation; and the residents of the Crow reservation desperately want the service offered by Western Wireless. This is a true definition of tribal sovereignty.

The Western Wireless offering is extremely important to not only the Crow Nation and the Winnebago Tribe but to all Indian country in general. The opportunity for competitive, affordable wireless telephone service on reservations should not pass us by.

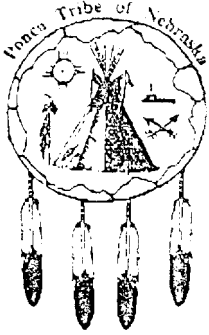
This is critically important to us and to all other tribes similarly situated. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Mallory
Tribal Chairman

cc. Chairlady Nomes
Western Wireless Corporation
Charles W. Blackwell
Commissioner Tristram
Commissioner Ness
Commissioner Powell
Commissioner Furthgott-Roth

**Ponca Tribe of Nebraska**

P.O. Box 288
Niobrara, NE 68760

402 857-3391
FAX: 402 857-3736

May 25, 2000

William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and for
Related Waivers to Provide Universal Service to the Crow Reservation, Montana, CC
Docket No. 96-45, DA 99-1847.

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska supports the sovereign request of the Crow Tribe to have the FCC grant the Western Wireless petition for ETC status on the Crow Reservation. For over two years the Federal Communications Commission has focused on the extraordinary need of telecommunications service on American Indian reservations. All residents of Indian reservations must have access to high-quality basic and advanced telecommunications services. We hope that your efforts in this regard will translate into reservations having equal access to the telecommunications services necessary to bring about solid economic and social prosperity for Indian people.

The time is now for immediate FCC action on several matters, including the designation of competition carriers, like Western Wireless, as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and making federal universal service funding available to competitive carriers serving other reservations as well as the Crow.

We request positive and expeditious action by the FCC on the petition of Western Wireless, submitted to the FCC on August 4, 1999, in which Western Wireless seeks ETC status to provide service to Crow tribal reservation lands within the context of the universal service subsidy program. It is our understanding that Western Wireless has the full support of the Crow Nation; Western Wireless stands ready to build the necessary infrastructure to provide basic and advanced telecommunications services on the

so should be commended. We strongly believe that competitive services should be available to all consumers, not just those who reside in urban areas or in areas served by U S West Communications. After all, we have seen that competition spurs economic development and results in the availability of basic and advanced telecommunications for all consumers. We believe that, through pro-competitive policies, North Dakota can become a model for telecommunications prosperity. We continue to push for strong solid economic development in rural areas of North Dakota including our reservation. Our state on behalf of all the people it serves including the citizens of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians must not put up barriers to keep new technology from competing fairly with existing telephone companies. We should not send a message to the nation's business community which discourages investment in North Dakota based on concerns of existing telephone companies. The first step in this direction Wireless, to enter rural markets as a competitive ETC.

I hope you share our desire to establish a competitive environment for telecommunications services for all North Dakotans which we believe will lead to the availability of new services, lower prices, increased quality of service, and greater economic prosperity.

Respectfully,



Richard J. LaFromboise
Tribal Chairman



P.O. Box 10000, Helena, Montana 59617
(406) 441-1000

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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ROGER RUNNING CRANE - VICE CHAIRMAN
GEORGE HEAVY RUNNER - SECRETARY
HOWARD DOORE - ACTING SECRETARY
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1/30/1990

BLACKFEET TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL

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HOWARD DOORE
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BERNARD ST. GODDARD
CARL KIPP
HUGH MONROE
ROCK B. GOBERT, JR.

William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Petition for Designation of the Blackfeet Tribe to have the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) grant "ETC" status to Western Wireless Corporation, a domestic sovereign nation, CC Docket No. 96-458.

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Blackfeet Tribe of Montana has long supported the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) efforts to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

For over two years now, the Blackfeet Tribe has been working to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

The time is now for immediate action to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

The Blackfeet Tribe supports the FCC's efforts to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

For over two years now, the Blackfeet Tribe has been working to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

The time is now for immediate action to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

The Blackfeet Tribe supports the FCC's efforts to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

The Blackfeet Tribe of Montana has long supported the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) efforts to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

For over two years now, the Blackfeet Tribe has been working to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

The time is now for immediate action to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are


The Blackfeet Tribe supports the FCC's efforts to let you know how we are very similar to that of the Crow population where wireless services are

We specifically request positive consideration of the proposal submitted to the FCC on August 1, 1990, for the use of the Crow tribal reservation land for the purpose of providing wireless service. Western Wireless has the financial resources and technical expertise necessary infrastructure to provide wireless service on the reservation; and that the residents of the reservation will benefit from the service. As we view it, this is a win-win situation for the residents of the reservation and the nation of Western Wireless, and the nation of Western Wireless stands ready to build the infrastructure necessary to provide wireless services on the reservation. We are currently offering service on the reservation.

The Western Wireless offering is not only for the Crow Nation but to all Indian country in general. The service will be available on our reservations and on the reservation of the Crow Nation and the Blackfeet Tribe. We are currently offering service on the reservation.

This is critically important to the residents of the reservation. Thank You

Sincerely,



William Old Chief, Chairman
Blackfeet Tribal Business Council

cc: Chairlady Monroe
Western Wireless Company
Commissioner Tristram
Commissioner Ness
Commissioner Powell
Commissioner Furlong
Senator Burns
Senator Campbell
Senator Inouye
Senator Baccus
Senator McCain
FCC Common Carrier
Charles W. Blackwell